

OML MARCH PROGRAM

AAUW INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

TUESDAY, MARCH 18

“WOMEN HELPING WOMEN AROUND THE GLOBE”

9:00 – Social Gathering

9:30 – Program Begins

Women **4** Women



Women are often the innocent victims of conflict, ignorance and political turmoil in diverse regions around the globe. The AAUW's March program will present an international panel of three fascinating women who will address the issues of conflict, education and the empowerment of women and girls in the Middle East, Afghanistan and Cambodia. Come and experience how Women make an enormous difference in the lives of other women and girls.

Turn to page 3 to read more about the panelists and the *Mylar Solar Oven* demonstration



ALSO AT THIS IMPORTANT MEETING:

- Election of Branch Officers for 2014-15 (See slate on page 2)
- Approval of Bylaw changes (as outlined in the February Triad)
- Announcement of the 2014 Distinguished Woman

All meetings of the OML Branch are held at the
HOLY TRINITY SERBIAN CHURCH CULTURAL CENTER
1700 School St., Moraga 

COMING UP NEXT MONTH

Sunday
April 27 at 3 pm
Tech Trek & Scholarship
Awards Meeting

**“A Career in Science:
Determination and Drive Make
the Difference”**

Dr. Marinda Wu, keynote speaker at our upcoming awards ceremony, dreamed of growing up to be either a scientist or an ambassador. She will tell us about her incredible career path,



why she ended up choosing chemistry and her commitment to encourage young women to enter STEM careers.

At this mid-afternoon meeting we will also be welcoming the OML Branch annual Tech Trek and Scholarship winners, plus many of their family and close friends. Six 7th grade girls will tell us why they are passionate about science and math and will be awarded Tech Trek scholarships to the Grace Hopper Camp at Stanford University. Four scholarship winners, chosen from our local high schools and St. Mary's College, will also be honored. These young women demonstrate a passion for community service and academic achievement.

Plan on attending this special program to honor and meet these extraordinary women and girls!

PIPINGS from the PRESIDENT

Greetings One & All!

It was such a pleasure having “quality time” to chat with several of our newer members at the New Member Brunch hosted by Marie Bonilla on Sunday, February 23rd. We found that we have many world travelers in our ranks. I enjoyed hearing about many an escapade! Thank you again to Marie as well as to: Bonny Gallogly, Anita Cox, Sandy Fox-Sohner, and Gail Chesler for attending and sharing your AAUW OML experiences.



Commercial Interruption Time: 3/18, A don't miss General Meeting regarding women struggling on the International Stage. 3/22, Sister-2-Sister Summit. Can you help? Call Valarie Burgess if you can. 3/29, Tech Trek's **Shred Fest**, being held at the 5A Rents in Rheem from 9-1. \$5 per file box! Wow! What a deal!!!! See you there.

AAUW CALIFORNIA Convention, April 11 – 13, 2014, LAX Marriot. Gail Chesler and I are attending. We'd love to have you join us.

Tech Trek is getting ready to choose their 6 “trekkers” for camp and I've heard through the grape vine that the Scholarship Committee has a need for eye compresses after reading the many applications they received this year. Can't wait to meet all of the winners at the April 27th General Meeting. I'm always so awed by these young ladies!

Thank you, All, for being a part of this worthwhile organization. Together we do great things!

Karen Mankowski

ELECTED SLATE of OFFICERS FOR 2014-2015

- President: Karen Mankowski
- President Elect: Gail Chesler
- Program VP: Diane Bell-Rettger (needs co-chair)
- Membership VP: (needs a chair-Bonnie Gallogly, Trudy Barron, Estelle Andrews and Shelly Drasin each are willing to do a major piece of it)
- EF and LAF Funds VP: Jan Cushman and Alison Mackenzie
- Secretary: Judy Hammon
- Finance VP: Therese Tamaro

UPDATE

Over the past few months, some consideration was given by the Board and other branch members to changing the official name of our branch from “Orinda Moraga, Lafayette” to “Lamorinda”.

In the end, it was decided that the legal costs, the time required, and the loss of recognizable (real) map identity weighed heavily against the change. At this time, the change is no longer being considered.

THE TRIAD Staff	
Editor Mary Leigh Miller, 631-9694 email: mlmiller602@gmail.com	Proof Reader Jeanne Melaugh, 954-1007 email: jmelaugh@comcast.net
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2013-2014	
President Karen Mankowski President-Elect Gail Chesler Vice-Presidents, Membership Bonnie Gallogly, Anita Cox Vice-President, Program Nancy Brewer	Vice-President, AAUW Funds-Education Jan Cushman Vice-President, AAUW Funds-Legal Advocacy Diane Bell-Rettger Vice-President, Finance Judy Hammon Recording Secretary Therese Tamaro
AAUW Association Website: http://www.aauw.org California AAUW Website: http://www.aauw-ca.org	



FOCUS ON ... INTERNATIONAL WOMEN

International Women, continued from the front page

MARCH MEETING PANELISTS

Zohra Tawakali was born in Kabul and emigrated to the U.S. with her husband 34 years ago when the situation in Afghanistan became too dangerous. Her husband, Nabi, is the volunteer vice president of Trust In Education (TIE), founded by Budd MacKenzie eight years ago. TIE is well known in the Bay Area as a grass roots organization that provides educational, economic, health care, food and clothing assistance to villages in Afghanistan.

As a representative and spokeswoman for TIE, Zohra Tawakali will share the enormous impact that TIE's outreach has had on women and girls in the rural villages of Afghanistan. She will focus on TIE's partnership with the villagers in building schools, community learning centers for mothers and their daughters, libraries, and women's soccer teams...YES! Women's soccer teams! Though Zohra has never returned to Afghanistan, through TIE she has been on the cutting edge of the organization's fight for gender equality and attempts to bridge the differences in Afghanistan impacting women and girls.



Zohra (at left) demonstrates the solar oven with K. De Groot and Audie Protiva

Zohra will focus on TIE's home education projects and the enrollment of girls in school, which has risen dramatically. Myths about education are being challenged and dispelled. There was a time when parents were told and believed that "schools would turn their children into infidels". A vital consequence of this education of women and girls is that parents are educated as well. Zohra will tell her audience all about the new school in Farza, just north of Kabul that is overflowing with girls eager to learn with the computers and other teaching tools supplied by TIE.

Zohra will share what life is like for Afghan women. She will demonstrate one of the new "miracle" Mylar Solar Ovens designed by volunteers for TIE, which have helped and simplified the lives of the women who love them. These ovens also play an important environmental role since the sun does the heating and NOT wood!

Another panelist is **Minoo Moallem**, a professor of Gender & Women's Studies in The Department of The Middle East at The University of California at Berkeley. Minoo has devoted her professional career in academics to empowering women through education. She grew up in Tehran and received her MA and BA from The University of Tehran. She earned her PhD from The Universite de Montreal. She was the Chair of The Gender and Woman's Studies Dept. at UC Berkeley from 2008-2010. While there, she interacted, inspired and empowered women with vital knowledge about Islamic Fundamentalism, the culture and politics of wearing the veil and transnational Feminism. Minoo will analyze the myths and messages expressed by the wearing of the veil in various Middle Eastern Cultures. Her many books on these subjects as well as on Iranian cultural politics and diasporas, continue to be important resources for empowering women for personal growth and also to inspire them to pursue careers in public life.

Finally, we have one of our own members, **Ksenija Omer**. She is the VP of The Cambodian Child's Dream Organization, which has already built 820 water wells in rural villages of Cambodia. These wells have had a tremendous effect in simplifying women's lives and insuring clean water for families. Supporting the education of children in the local schools and adult literacy classes for mothers have been very empowering for women and their daughters. She will update us on the new programs tailored especially for women and girls in their rural communities. Monthly community workshops address specific issues women have requested on nutrition, hygiene, family planning and domestic violence prevention. Be the first to hear about the puberty workshops for grades 7-9 and the plans to publish a comic book to prevent child and sex trafficking!

According to Ksenija: EDUCATION =POWER! She is enabling these women and girls to develop that power. She is a great example of how we here at home, can make an enormous difference in the lives of women and girls around the globe.

There will be a 20-minute Q & A session following the presentations of our panel.

**K. De Groot
Audie Protiva**

AAUW FUNDS ~ FEBRUARY PROGRAM

Reporting for TV: Challenges and Opportunities

How would you prepare to enter a favela (shanty town and slum) in the largest city in Brazil to ask residents about losing their houses or a city in Mozambique to ask about sensitive women's issues? Débora Silva, the AAUW Career Development Grant recipient who spoke at our meeting on February 18, answered: plenty of advanced planning, inside contacts, speaking the native language, and being very careful and aware of your surroundings.

Débora shared her personal story and challenges as a broadcast journalist first in Brazil and then as a freelance associate correspondent for KQED in San Francisco before entering the masters program in Broadcast Journalism at UC Berkeley. She showed her film "Soccer Love" about São Paulo, Brazil, where residents (a group of more than 300 families from the slum Comunidade Favela da Paz), who initially expected to benefit from the World Cup, now live in fear that the government will evict them at any moment due to their proximity to an important World Cup venue. She also showed a short clip from her recent visit to Mozambique, where she spent 14 days with one other woman from UC Berkeley interviewing and filming government officials and local women and girls on women's issues, including discrimination, abuse, forced labor and trafficking in women and girls. Her clip showed a "girls' club" where the girls were taught that they could report abuse and rape to the police. Unfortunately, the police have few resources for responding to these reports which shows the great need for increased support for women's rights in the country.

Thanks to AAUW's grant which has supported the second year of her masters program, Débora clearly is well on her way to her goal of becoming an outstanding international correspondent and film producer on societal issues. Look for her at KQED, National Geographic, ABC, NBC or CBS in the future!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to AAUW Funds in 2013! The branch donated \$9,039 to a variety of funds in support of AAUW's programs for Educational Opportunities, Legal Advocacy including our own Gloria Weston fund, Public Policy, Eleanor Roosevelt Fund, and Leadership Programs.

Jan Cushman, VP, AAUW FUNDS - Education



Débora Silva, with Jan Cushman, Karen Mankowski and Nancy Brewer



AAUW IN ACTION From the AAUW Website

Get Ready for Equal Pay Day

The AAUW Action Fund is preparing for one of the most un-wonderful times of the year, Equal Pay Day 2014 on Tuesday, April 8.

Equal Pay Day is the symbolic day when women's earnings catch up to men's earnings from the previous year. Equal Pay Day 2014 has added significance in that it falls between two big legislative anniversaries: the fifth anniversary of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act on January 29 and the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act on July 2. Last year, AAUW members led more than 130 Equal Pay Day activities across the country. Learn from their success — and plan now for 2014!

For more info, visit the AAUW Action Website: <http://www.aauwaction.org>

AAUW's Position on Reproductive Rights From the AAUW-CA Website

AAUW supports the right of every woman to safe, accessible, affordable, and comprehensive family planning and reproductive health services. This position stems from AAUW's 2013-2015 Public Policy Priorities, which advocates "to guarantee equality, individual rights and social justice for a diverse society, AAUW supports: choice in the determination of one's reproductive life... increased access to quality, affordable health care and family planning services, including expansion of patient rights."

AAUW trusts that every woman has the ability to make her own informed choices regarding her reproductive life within the dictates of her own religious and moral beliefs. Further, AAUW holds that these deeply personal decisions should be made without governmental interference.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We welcomed some of our newest members this past week at a brunch in the lovely home of **Marie Bonilla**. These ladies bring new energy and ideas, and we look forward to an ongoing partnership in furthering the goals of AAUW to promote equity for women and girls.

Sandy Fox Sohner has been heading up the nominating committee this year. There is always need for change and variety in leadership positions. She has been working with me to find women who will be part of next year's membership team so that the membership duties can be spread out. A group effort will contribute to finding, welcoming, and integrating new women to our branch without any one person having too much required of them.

Shelly Drasin continues as the membership treasurer. She collects all dues and sends the necessary forms to national to keep our roster up to date. Sandy has been successful in finding helpers in the area of member hospitality and nametags.

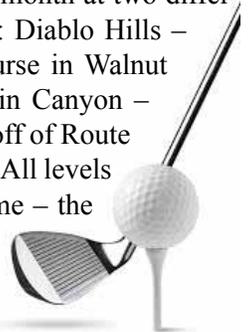
We are still searching for someone who would mail the yearly invoice and follow up with any returning members who haven't finished their paperwork. There is a need for someone to organize the Pear Festival booth in late Sept. This is a onetime community event that highlights our presence in Lamorinda. Many people have commented on the NEW MEMBER poster that is found at our General Meetings. Can we locate someone who will keep it current as we continue to welcome new additions to the branch? Can anyone Xerox and collate 12-15 New Member Booklets in late summer or early fall to share with those who join OML. Last there is a position for overall coordinator to oversee our membership needs. When we have branch members who step up and take just one of these tasks, it eases the work and provides the support so crucial to having an energetic and welcoming OML membership. Please step up and help in any way possible. YOU are needed and now is the time to get involved. *Thanks.*

Bonnie Gallogly, Membership VP

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS FOCUS ON ... BIKING & GOLF

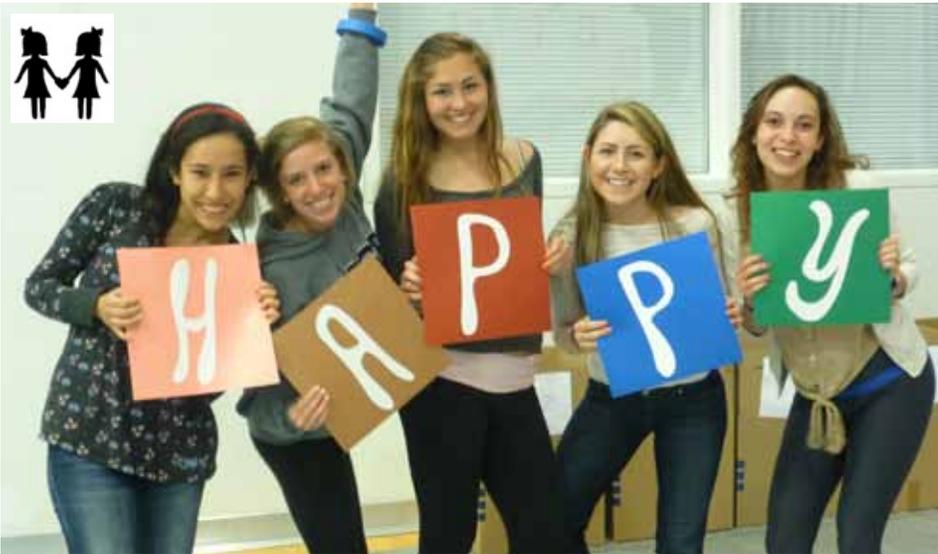
On the last Monday of each month, OML member, **Ellen Beans** plans and leads a gentle bike ride through the back roads of our community. Starting and ending locations vary and the tour usually lasts a couple of hours. If this fits into your exercise regimen and you own a bicycle in rideable condition, consider contacting Ellen about join the group.

Maybe golf is your thing. **Janita Gee** has been the coordinator of this special interest group, setting up tee times on a Monday twice a month at two different public courses: Diablo Hills – a small 9-hole course in Walnut Creek, and Franklin Canyon – an 18 hole course off of Route 4 west of Marin. All levels of play are welcome – the idea is to have fun!



**SNAP SHOTS from the
PAST PRESIDENTS LUNCHEON
Held on February 11 at Uncle Yu's
Restaurant in Lafayette**

SISTER TO SISTER SUMMIT ~ MARCH 22



Girl Talk March 22!

They're ready! The excitement bounces off the walls. Since September, twenty-four high school girls have prepared for the Sister-to-Sister Summit on March 22. And we are sooooo close! The summit brings together our trained high school facilitators (representing over 500 combined hours of training) and middle school girls in a celebration of friendship and sisterhood. There will be girl talk, games, activities, gifts, and prizes. There's no talk like girl talk, and there's no time like girl time! Let the Summit begin!

Volunteers are ramping-up now and looking forward to the big day. If you want to join the fun, call Valarie at 997-0118.

VALENTINES for SCHOLARSHIPS

The Pre-Valentine Day party on a rainy February seventh was a huge success. New member **Robbi Senderov** graciously opened her home to us. Committee members, branch members and friends were warm and cozy, enjoying music, crafts, desserts, friendship and conversation.

"Singin' in the Rain" was an especially popular tune, lead by **Gail Burnett** and **Priscilla Magee** on piano and violin, while we ate chocolates, made valentines at the craft table and sang old favorites. Raffle tickets were sold, treasures were purchased at the five-dollar table and more chocolate was eaten. We had lots of fun, and there is talk of a repeat next year. *Also we raised \$638 dollars for scholarships!*

We sincerely thank all who attended or sent donations to this worthwhile cause. Through your generosity we have met this year's goal and are raising funds towards next year's scholarships.

SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

The scholarship committee has received a total of twenty-three scholarship applications. There are eight from Cam-polindo; Miramonte, seven; Acalanes, one; and Saint Mary's College, seven. There are many talented girls among these applicants with excellent grades and extensive community service.

Please join us on Sunday afternoon, April 27, for the special OML Awards Presentation program when the finalists will be honored.

Sally Swanson
Mary Ann McLeod
Lynda Leonard
Photos by
K. De Groot



OML OUTREACH

Taking Tests for College Admission: SAT or ACT?

Do you know someone preparing to go to college? The scholarship committee is again sponsoring the spring Princeton Review Assessment (PRA) testing workshop to help students hone their college entrance exam skills.

Students approaching college entrance exams have a great opportunity to find out which test they do best in. Practice tests provide students with an opportunity to understand these exams as well as an evaluation targeted at improving their scores when taking the real tests. The test is for all high school students thinking about going to college.

The American Association of University Women, Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette Branch (AAUW-OML) has partnered with PRA to conduct a four-hour test that will combine SAT and ACT test elements. Many colleges are now accepting either the SAT or the ACT test results when assessing college applicants. It is a good idea to understand how these tests are conducted and to have the opportunity to practice college entrance exam-taking skills. The two tests are structured differently and individual students often perform better on one than on the other.

AAUW will conduct the spring PRA testing on Saturday, May 3, at the Moraga Library. On Saturday, May 17, PRA will meet again with students and their parents to provide an individual assessment of test scores and a strategy session directed towards helping the students to improve future test performance.

We seek volunteers to serve as exam proctors for this workshop or future workshops. If you would like to volunteer, please call **Lisa Geary, 808-8540**, or **Ksenija Soster-Olmer, 708-0770**.

Don't miss this great opportunity to clear out your office and garage! Proceeds from this mini fundraiser will help support future Tech Trek scholarships.

**Find us at AAAAA Rent-A-Space – across Moraga Road from the Rheem Shopping Center.
Tell your friends & neighbors!**

SHRED.



Send local girls to TECH TREK.

AAUW Science & Math Camp Scholarship Fund

March 29, 2014 • 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Rain or Shine. Just \$5 per file box.

2013-14 AAUW OML SPONSORS/ ADVERTISERS

*AAUW members

ALAMEDA

Herbs & Spices Catering

LAFAYETTE

AMARIN Thai Cuisine

Asian Accents ~ Original Jewelry

Design by K. deGroot*

The Bloom Space

Creative Alterations,

Josef Jamkochain

Della Faulkner, Chiropractor

DIABLO FOODS

Glamorous Boutique

Open Sesame Specialty Foods

Persons Plastic & Reconstructive

Surgery, Barbara Persons, MD

Ware Designs – Fine Jewelry

MORAGA

AMOROMA Ristorante

Café Hacienda/home/made café & bakery

GOODWILL Industries, East Bay

King Florist & Gifts

National Assoc. for Advancement of

Female People,

Diane Bell-Rettger*

Neighborhood Computers

New Delhi Indian Bistro

Royal Siam Thai Cuisine

SHOP MORAGA FIRST

Terzetto Cuisine Café

Total Clean

ViaVienté – Lana Reichick*

ORINDA

Joan Evans* & Angie Evans Traxinger,

Village Associates Real Estate

Gary's Handyman Service

Soraya Golesorkhi*, Realtor

Caldwell Banker

McDonnell Nursery

Morrison's Jewelers

Redwood Cottage

Sea Ranch Vacation Rental,

Elaine Gallaher*

Piccolo Napoli

WALNUT CREEK

Maxine Christison Interior Designs,

Maxine Christison*

MARCH AT A GLANCE

1 SAT – CRITICS CHOICE/BESTSELLERS BOOK GROUP
Please rotate your book

1 SAT – INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL
Contact Ksenija Soter-Olmer for info

3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, 27, 31 MON & THURS – TENNIS
8:15-10 am Contact Tory Courtney 376-1295

4 TUES – #1 BRIDGE GROUP
12 noon – Joyce Dickey 825-7991

5,12,19, 26 WED – GREAT DECISIONS
2 pm Hacienda de las Flores

6 THU – #2 BRIDGE GROUP
12 noon – Virginia Semrau 283-8056

10, 24 MON – GOLF
Contact Jan Gee for t-time and venue, 938-1316

11 TUES – #3 BRIDGE GROUP
12 noon Joyce Dickey, 825-7991

11 TUES – BOARD MEETING
1 pm 80 Silverwood Drive, Lafayette

14 FRI – LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES
Group 1 (Date change is for this onth only)

18 TUES – **GENERAL MEETING**
Women Helping Women
9 am (Social time) 9:30-11:30 (Program)
Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School St., Moraga

19 WED – MEMOIRS & MUSINGS
1-3 pm Call Carol Messinger for details, 283-8741

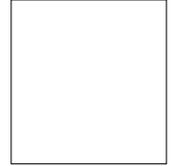
20 THURS – #4 BRIDGE GROUP
12 noon – Jessie Doleman 826-5116

21 FRI – ANYONE WHO HAS READ THE BOOK
My Beloved World, by Sonia Sotomayor
10 am Contact Susan Wilson 376-0606

21 FRI – LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES
Groups 2 & 3

22 SAT – SISTER-to-SISTER SUMMIT
9 am-3 pm Bentley School

AAUW-OML
Database Coord.
3537 Springhill Rd
Lafayette, CA 94549



24 MON – APRIL TRIAD DEADLINE
Send items to mlmiller602@gmail.com

25 TUES – #5 BRIDGE GROUP
12 noon – Patricia Bentley, 284-2936

26 WED – WISE WOMEN
1 pm Contact Carrol Foxall

29 SAT – SHRED FEST FUNDRAISER
9 am-1 pm AAAAA Rent-A-Space, Moraga

31 MON – BIKE GROUP
Contact Ellen Beans, ellen.beans@gmail.com

APRIL 2014
(look for more listings in the APRIL issue)

8 TUES – BOARD MEETING
1 pm 80 Silverwood Drive, Lafayette

27 SUN – GENERAL MEETING
Tech Trek & Scholarship Awards
3-5 PM Holy Trinity Cultural Center, Moraga
Women Helping Women Around the Globe

**IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL
SPECIAL INTEREST COORDINATORS:**
*If your group decides to meet on a different day or
time than normal, please contact our Calendar Coor-
dinator, JEANNE MELAUGH, so she can update the
website calendar.*